

Problem-Solving Courts Committee

Meeting Minutes

March 16, 2007 at 1:30 pm
IJC, room 1371, 13th floor

- I. Welcome
Judge Shaheed opened the meeting at approximately 1:30 pm. Members in attendance included Judge Blau, Judge Brugnaux, Judge Surbeck, Judge Todd, Judge Trockman, Sheila Hudson and Don Travis. Other present included Bill Carey, Cheri Harris and Mary Kay Hudson.
- II. Review minutes of last meeting – January 12, 2007
Members reviewed minutes from the January 12, 2007 meeting. Judge Surbeck moved that the minutes be approved; Judge Brugnaux seconded that motion. All members voted in favor of approving the minutes and the minutes were adopted as written.
- III. Discussion re: problem solving courts committee mission statement
Members reviewed and approved the committee mission statement as written. Members also approved the document Principles: Problem-Solving Courts with two amendments. A technical change was made in the third bullet point to change “life” to “lives.” Members also agreed to change the last bullet point from “to develop a catalog of problem-solving initiatives existing in Indiana” to “to develop a catalog of existing and potential problem-solving initiatives.”
- IV. Report and discussion on reentry court rules
Judge Surbeck briefly discussed the current draft of the interim reentry court rules dated March 8, 2007. The interim rules will serve to permit existing reentry courts to continue operation under IC 33-23-14 and will also permit new courts to be established prior to the board adopting final rules for reentry courts. Judge Surbeck recommended the following changes to the draft rules:
 1. increasing the time period in Sec. 2(f) from sixty (60) to ninety (90) days,
 2. adding a statement to Sec. 4(a) that an application may be denied for conduct or practices found by the IJC to create a danger to public health or safety,
 3. re-reciting criteria listed under Sec. 4(a) under Sec. 5 Suspension and Revocation Procedures,
 4. extending the time period in Sec. 5(c)(2) from sixty (60) days to 90 (ninety) days,
 5. indicating that under Sec. 6(c)(2)(B), the IJC has the burden of showing an application does not meet provisional certification requirements or why revocation of the provisional certificate is justified.

Cheri Harris reported that she will add a section on applicability and advised members that Jane Seigel has some recommendations for technical changes that will be included in the next draft. The reentry rules workgroup anticipates that the workgroup will present a final draft of the interim rules to the committee at its next meeting. If approved by the committee, the interim rules will be presented to the Board of Directors at its June 2007 meeting. The reentry court rules workgroup is also working on a draft of final rules for reentry courts to be presented to the Board of Directors for approval in June 2008.

V. Update on drug court evaluation

Judge Blau provided committee members with an update on the evaluation project. Drafts of the final reports will be available in the next several weeks beginning with Vanderburgh County next week.

VI. Update on legislation relevant to problem-solving courts (including funding possibilities)

SB 376 – Drug Court Eligibility

HB 1366 – Community Transition

HB 1617 – Ignition Interlock

HB 1437 – Forensic Diversion

HTV/probationary driver's license and other proposed language

Mary Kay Hudson provided current versions of the above bills. Ms. Hudson noted that SB 376 Drug Court Eligibility did not receive a hearing in the Senate and that there were no bills filed related to HTV/probationary driver's license this session. Judge Brugnaux stated that there is currently legislation at the federal level that will prohibit changes to the HTV/probationary license statutes.

VII. Problem-solving court survey – next steps

Members discussed strategies to increase the response rate to the survey completed in January 2007. Mary Kay Hudson will reissue the survey to the judicial officers in attendance at Spring Judicial College that did not reply to the online survey.

VIII. Problem-solving court workshop planning

(Workshop scheduled October 4-5, 2007 at the Marriott North, Indianapolis)

Judge Blau provided an summary of topics ideas discussed at the drug court subcommittee meeting that morning. Possible workshop topics include:

1. A plenary on problem-solving courts / problem – solving justice
2. NPC drug court evaluation project results
3. Planning for program evaluation
4. Topics of interest to juvenile and CHINS drug courts
5. Evidence-based practices
6. Prescription management
7. Post-traumatic stress disorder
8. Professional groups assistance program (ISNAP, JLAP)
9. Methadone and Cyboxin in a drug court setting

Committee members discussed other potential topics, including:

1. Therapeutic jurisprudence
2. Department of Correction reentry program
3. Forensic diversion programs
4. Building multi-disciplinary teams

Mary Kay Hudson reported that the capacity for the conference facility is approximately 250 persons. Members recommended that the workshop be open to drug court and reentry court

teams. Judges who are considering or planning a problem-solving court may also attend with one guest based upon availability.

IX. Schedule next meeting date

The next committee meeting was scheduled for May 18, 2007 at 12:00 pm – 2:00 pm at the Indiana State House, room 156A.

X. Adjourn

Judge Shaheed adjourned the meeting at approximately 3:00 pm.